

Rail Enhancement Fund

Current Status and the Way Forward

November 9, 2006

Active Agreements Today

Project Agreements

- ❑ 13 projects approved by RAB/CTB
 - 12 projects managed by DRPT
 - Interagency Agreement with Virginia Port Authority to manage the Median Rail Project

Status

- ❑ 1 Agreement signed
- ❑ 8 Agreements in negotiations with grantee
- ❑ 2 Agreements in final internal review
- ❑ 2 Agreements will not move forward

Status of REF Agreements (1)

Name	Grantee	Status	Contract Completion Date	Project Completion Date
Gainesville/ Haymarket Feasibility Study	VRE	Draft Agreement under internal review.	12/29/06	Early 2008
Cherry Hill Station and Third Track Study	VRE	Draft Agreement complete. Sent to VRE for review.	12/29/06	Early 2008
APM/Maersk Rail Yard Expansion	APMVA	Final draft of Agreement under preparation.	11/30/06	Summer 2007
Suffolk Connection to CWRV	CSX	Draft Agreement under review.	12/29/06	Pending CSX/NS Negotiations

draft 10-30-06

Status of REF Agreements (2)

Name	Grantee	Status	Contract Completion Date	Project Completion Date
Portsmouth Subdivision Height Clearances	CSX	Draft Agreement under review.	12/29/06	Pending CSX/NS Negotiations
North Acca Yard Switches	CSX	Draft Agreement complete. Awaiting performance info. from CSX.	11/30/06	In Service
Heartland Corridor	NS	Agreement signed 5/15/06. Schedule of Values under negotiation.	10/31/06	Summer 2009
CWRY Line Purchase	CWRY	Final draft of Agreement under preparation.	11/30/06	Spring 2007

Status of REF Agreements (3)

Name	Grantee	Status	Contract Completion Date	Project Completion Date
Intermodal Improvements Crewe-Suffolk	NS	Draft Agreement being negotiated with NS.	11/30/06	Mid 2007
VA/NC Passenger Rail EIS	NCDOT	Negotiations underway. NCDOT has requested revisions to Scope of Work.	11/30/06	Winter 2008
Median Rail Project	CWRY	Draft Agreement complete. VPA has provided design-build agreement.	11/30/06	Spring 2007

Projects that will not Advance

- ❑ Charlottesville Connecting Track Upgrade Study
 - \$21,000 REF
 - Operating and physical challenges prevent this project from advancing
- ❑ Richmond Port Passenger/Freight Improvements
 - \$140,000 REF
 - TDX requested a project scope change and that the project be transferred to the City of Richmond

Related Actions

☐ Charlottesville Connecting Track Upgrade Study

- DRPT will request a status letter from BBRR confirming the inability of the project to advance and that project funds should be released back to the REF.

☐ Richmond Port Passenger/Freight Improvements

- Letter received from TDX requesting scope change.
- DRPT will indicate to TDX that this scope change would require submission of the new project under a separate application.
- DRPT will request a letter from TDX releasing project funds back to REF.

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The Way Forward

www.drpt.virginia.gov



New REF Application Procedures

Timeline for implementation:

- **November:** First draft presented today, along with public comments received on the current document
- **Nov-Dec:** 30 day public comment period
- **January:** Final draft approval at January RAB meeting
- **February:** DRPT will present the new application procedures to the CTB at its February workshop
- **March:** CTB to approve final application procedures at their March action meeting
- **April:** Open application process begins

Key Changes (1)

- ❑ **Open application period**
 - Allows projects to be considered and advanced more frequently than at one specific time per year
 - Makes funding available more frequently than once per year
 - Allows for a more detailed review process and public benefit analysis per project
 - Allows DRPT to negotiate the best possible contract for each project

- ❑ **Applications could be received as early as April 2007, following CTB adoption of the final document at its March meeting**

Key Changes (2)

- ☐ Construction projects with 30% preliminary engineering completed at the time of application will be evaluated with a greater positive weight in the consideration for funding
- ☐ Incorporates state review requirements for projects taking place outside existing railroad right of way
- ☐ Contracts will be executed based on a standard REF agreement
- ☐ Specifies public involvement requirements
- ☐ Projects will be consistent with DRPT's Strategic Rail Investment Plan (upon completion)

DRPT's Strategic Rail Investment Plan

www.drpt.virginia.gov



Goals

- ❑ Set priorities for state investments in rail
 - Identify priority rail corridors and chokepoints for investment
- ❑ Establish a reference to help guide REF and other DRPT rail fund investments
- ❑ Focus on completing high impact improvements first to make the most of limited funding

Key Elements

- ❑ Update and expand upon the Virginia State Rail Plan of 2004
- ❑ Include data from other rail initiatives:
 - Statewide Multimodal Freight Study
 - Passenger Rail Studies
- ❑ Enhance public benefit analysis
 - Weigh projects based on a point system
 - Incorporate policy goal requirements of the REF
- ❑ Incorporate best practices established by VA transportation programs such as Transportation Enhancement

Implementation Schedule

- ☐ Initiate development in fall 2006
- ☐ Review draft document in summer 2007
- ☐ Implementation in fall 2007



Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation

The Smartest Distance Between Two Points

www.drpt.virginia.gov

info@drpt.virginia.gov

804-786-4440



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